

Cletus Rivera #8-2154  
S.C.I. Greene  
175 Progress Dr  
Waynesburg, PA 15370

Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

FCC Mail Room

Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comment  
Chairman Julius Genachowski  
445 12th St, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 26, 2012

"This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket #96-128)."

Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing in regard to the astronomical state prison phone rates. I am a prisoner in the Pennsylvania Dept. of Corrections. I have been a prisoner for the past four years. I heard about the Wright Petition and wanted to share my thoughts.

I was born and raised in Reading, PA. This is also where my conviction is from. However, I am being housed in Waynesburg, PA. This is in the south west corner of PA. Five and a half hours from Reading to be exact.

It costs my family and I \$5.60 for a call. We have spent well over \$2,000. That is just from my commissary purchased phone cards. The Global Tel-Link collect calls is another add on to our total spent.

I recently placed a call to London. I was blown away by the rates for a 15 minute call. It cost \$3.45! How is it cheaper to call another continent than it is to call domestically? This baffles me.

I write this letter in hopes of shedding light on the phone rates in this state. Talking with loved ones is crucial in rehabilitating a person. It also provides incentive to stay out of trouble. You look forward to making that call. I hope you can help us out with the astronomical prison phone rates. Thank you for your time Chairman!

Respectfully,



This is a public comment for the "Wright" Petition (CC Docket #96-128)

To: Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected  
SEP - 4 2012  
FCC Mail Room

From: Donnie Russell, #82561  
Unit-25 B-zone Bed-75  
Parchman, MS 38738

Date: August 26, 2012

Re: Costs of Prison Phone Calls.

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Around the first week of January, 2010 my brother, who lives in LaPorte, Texas, put \$40.00 on my prison phone account with Global Tel Link so he and I could talk about our dad who was about to pass away. (Dad passed on January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2010.) I called my brother twice. The first call was a 15 minute call. The ~~second~~ second call was a 12 minute call. We got to talk a total of 27 minutes and it cost my brother \$40.00.

After that, I wrote him and told him I would write. It only cost a single stamp to write.

In September, 2010 my brother put another \$40.00 on my prison phone account. This money was for emergencies only. About a year later I was talking to another inmate about the high cost of prison phones. He said the \$40.00 my brother put on my account for emergencies was no longer there. I asked why. He said if you do not use the minutes up within six months the phone company will just take the money.

I then went over to the phone and tryed to call my brother. Sure enough, the operator said there was no funds on my prison phone account. Global Tel Link never informed us of this fact one way or the other. They never told us they would take the money if it was not used within six months and they never told us when they took the money.

My brother lives too far away to visit. The phone calls are too expensive to call. Even though I have time to set and write a 3 or 4 page letter, my brother does not. Therefore, I do not get to hear from him as much as I would like.

Thank you for your time and kind attention to this very important matter.

Donna Russell  
Eph. 5:8-10

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (cc Docket # 96-128):

September 2, 2012

To whom it may concern: Chairman Genachowski

I am located at a state institution James T. Vaughn Correctional Center, 1181 Paddock Road, Smyrna, Delaware 19977. The high rates charged to make an in state cell has hinder me from reaching my loved ones on the street. My people are on a fixed income told me they could not continue accepting my phone calls due to the high rate charged. They did not want to hurt my feelings, by telling me this. This year I only made two calls to the outside. It cost \$10.00 dollars I am in the same state and county I am calling to. This is a in state cell arbitrary I am being cut off from the outside world. Serving a life sentence need for a change of GIL back to the old system. We doing a bid need interaction from the streets to function normal not receiving interaction makes one feel less human, worthless without hope. Our people are being exploited and punish from a system their taxes keep running. Request for a much less phone rate for convicts housed in state institutions.

Sincerely  
Roderick Davis  
#00143241

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition  
(CC Docket #96-128)

Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

FCC Mail Room

I've been in prison without release since 13 July 82. Because of the cost of prison phones I have lost contact with my support system. As a result of the loss of communication, I had no family at the most important parole hearing in my life. When I told the Parole Board of all the family support I had, which I do, I was questioned when not one family member showed up.

I told my family to be available around the middle of the Sept month. When the Board changed to the first of the month, I had no way of informing my family, because they weren't able to change their plans and I wasn't able to call. Phone prices were too high for them to keep up. All my family have collect call blocks. If you ask them - they support me, but we are a dollar driver society, so now I sit with Natural life since 2008.

Telephones are the single most burdensome cost on our families and we are shackled by prison phone systems and the charges they put on our families. I would love to see phones less regulated. All my family reside in other states

Thank you

Ronald Kelly 103896  
Utah State Prison

Received & Inspected SEP - 4 2012 August 21, 2012

Mr. Chairman,

SEP - 4 2012 FCC Mail Room

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for the Wright petition (cc docket

#96-128). My name is Terrence Willis, a prisoner at the Marion Correctional Center in Illinois, IL, writing because through a recent issue of the publication Prison Legal News I have become aware of the effort curb the exorbitant phone rates that have bled and continue to bleed dry both the finances of my family as well as my close friends who have no recourse but to purchase phone time at these absurd rates to be able to talk to me through-out my incarceration.

Whether this overcharging was perpetrated by Consolidated Communications, as is the case here in Illinois, or some other company in another state, in the absence of my civilian loved ones and those of fellow prisoners being allowed to purchase telephone services from another carrier that provides competitive rates and the Illinois Dept. of Corrections apparent relinquishing of oversight into how rates are set,

who are at the mercy of entities such as Consolidated Communications

which has effectively brought it to a monopoly whereby it has been  
able to ~~price gouge its~~ consider market with impunity.

My mother is an aging diabetic who has been out of  
work for a considerable amount of time and is currently dependent on  
a government assistance program as the primary means of covering her  
monthly expenses which includes, among other things, rent, utilities, and  
her regular phone bill.

My sister, while employed part-time as a pharmacist, barely  
manages to log 12 hours out of a 20 hour work week and, along  
with her other obligations as a single mother with rent, utilities, car  
note, and phone bill on her own, serves as our mother's only means of  
help when her disability subsidy simply falls short; as is often the case.

To expect her to take an additional \$60 worth of  
collect phone calls ~~per~~ month (average call costs \$12-15 x 5) separately

from my calls alone on top of their average phone bills for a month  
of regular phone service rarely exceeds \$50 is unrealistic. It simply  
cannot be sustained in these economic times, and if the fact that the cost of  
calls from prison costs more than one month of regular phone ~~service~~  
is not indicative of an exorbitant pricing scheme, then please consider  
the hardship that results when I am forced to sacrifice speaking to  
my loved ones for what could and has been months at a time because they  
simply cannot afford to come out of pocket to pay two months worth of phone  
bills to talk to me.

My family and I, as does three quarters of the entire US  
population, hail from the metropolitan area of Chicago. With the exception  
of one maximum security prison, the rest of the states facilities are well  
over 100 miles south of the city. Joliet is over 200 miles south and  
the middle of nowhere, taking travel for low income families such as mine  
virtually impossible. Making long distance telephone call as the most  
infringe needs of communication for most of us.

Companies such as Consolidated Communications should

Not be able to profit off our misfortune especially not to ~~the~~ excess;

that the idea behind maintaining a profitable company has become

blurred with profiteering. I don't know how many others will be compelled

to speak out on this matter, but I implore you all of our behalf

to effectively mandate change in the form of either forcing the Dept. of

Corrections to allow our families to seek out purchasing telephone service

from carriers that provide cheaper competitive rates, or by significantly

reducing the rate scale by which our families have to pay even up to

establishing a rate ceiling these companies cannot exceed. Thank you

J. Willis

SEP - 4 2012

FCC Mail Room

8-20-12

Dear Chairman Genachowski

This is a public comment for the Wright Petitions  
CC Docket # 96-128

I'm writing you with concern over the high cost of the phone system. When I first came here to the Brook Correctional Facility the cost of a phone call was .10¢ per minute, which I thought was very acceptable, this charge only applied when I called my daughter in state. When I would call family and friends out of state the price went up to .12¢ per minute. All calls from prison are 15 minutes per call.

As the first of the came the phone company switched to PCS and the price of a 15 minute phone call in state went to \$2.90 out of state went to \$4.00. Not only did the cost increase the charges were never the same, some less than \$4.00 some more.

My Mother and Father are on a limited income and are now forced to set up an account with CPS in order for me to call them collect. That cost them over \$4.00 per call plus the interest on the credit card. The rest of my family has limited income as well and I will not have them set up accounts to pay unfair phone cost

Mrs Genachowski I am blessed to have a job that pays \$4.20 per day most men in here are not that blessed.

Living far from home and the high cost of gas  
(I) we have very little contact with our  
families. As you know the cost of everything has  
gone up, our store where we can buy food and  
personal hygiene products has increased cost anywhere  
from 5% to 25% per item and as of October  
1<sup>st</sup> we'll be taxed on those items as well. This  
plus the phones put additional stress upon an  
all ready stressful situation. So please help  
put corrections back in corrections. Thank you  
for your time in this matter.

Sincerely

Charlie Swartz

Charlie Swartz 74184

E.C. Brooks Correctional Facility  
2500 S. Sheridan Dr.  
Muskegon Heights, MI  
49444

Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

FCC Mail Room

Date , 8-21-12  
Time - 12:00 noon

Greetings & afternoon chairman  
genachowski i am writing you this brief  
letter not to take up to much of your  
time thanking you for your concern and  
wasting - trying to do something about  
these outrageous ridiculous prices they  
charges prisoners for local phone calls.  
which is definitely a burden to me and  
my family depriving us of regular com-  
munication ~~and~~ with is other which and  
prison only thing give one spece of mind  
is keeping inouch with love ones. Example  
of my situation ~~is~~ serving a prison  
sentence in the state of maryland i  
was and SCY inst. in Md. Jessup area  
paying 50¢ local phone call now being  
house in NBCY inst. in Cumberland Md.  
and paying 9 to 10 Dollars for same Local  
Phone call prison using all rentnow compa-  
ny, which they over price everything  
here commissary as well and what ever  
you can do will be appreciated. Thank you

Truly yours

\*328026

Mr. Walter Blannon

"THIS IS A FEDERAL DOCUMENT FOR THE USE OF THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FBI - JACKSON, TENNESSEE

DEAR MR. BEN GRAY,

I HOPE THIS LETTER FINDS YOU IN GOOD SPIRITS AND HEALTH. I AM WRITING YOU INFORMING YOU OF THE PROBLEMS AND THE HIGH COSTS OF PHONE CALLS AT THE MADISON CO. JAIL IN JACKSON, TN. A LOCAL CALL COSTS ABOUT \$2.85 AND IT SUPPOSE TO LAST 15 MINUTES. THIS AMOUNT IS INSANELY EXPENSIVE. HERE LATELY, THE PHONE HANGS UP ABOUT 3-3 MINUTES IN YOUR CONVERSATION, OPPRESSING AND FORCING YOU TO CALL BACK. THIS IS CAUSING MUCH GRIEF. WHEN I TELL THE OFFICERS ABOUT THIS SITUATION, THEIR RESPONSE IS "WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE PHONE SYSTEM!" SECURUS TECHNOLOGIES IS THE NAME OF THE PHONE PROVIDER. I HOPE THAT YOU CAN RESOLVE THIS PROBLEM WITH LOWER RATES AND BETTER SERVICE. THANK YOU.

Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

FCC Mail Room

MICAH TRANSOU  
Micah Transou  
27 AUG 12

-- This is a public comment for the WRIGHT PETITION \* (CC DOCKET #96-128).

Chairman Julius Genachowski,  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

August 28, 2012

Received & Inspected  
SEP - 4 2012  
FCC Mail Room

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing to express my concern over the outrageous cost of telephone calls made from the prisons in the state of Wisconsin system and from the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Our family includes three children who are now teenagers and have had limited verbal contact with their father for the past 6 years because of the high cost of collect calls and of calls that are pre-paid at alarming rates which include surcharges beyond a price per minute structure. This system must change.

Our family is made to suffer with the loss of a parent due to criminality, but it should not be made to further suffer for the financial benefit of corporations whose industry is in collusion with the prison systems to take advantage of a truly captive market and of vulnerable families.

Our family as a whole is forced to go without personal need items on a monthly basis for the ability to maintain verbal contact, which is already a poor substitute for contact visits in person, which are entirely too cost prohibitive given the vast distances the prisons are from our home.

Please recognize that some regulation must be enacted to stop these companies and prison systems from taking advantage of inmates and their families for the sake of profits and benefits.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Gregory S. Morak  
FCI - Elkton Unit FB  
PO Box 10 • Lisbon, OH 44432

Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

Dear Chairman Gennachowski,

FCC Mail Room

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition (CC docket # 96-128)

To whom it may concern. I'm a inmate here in New Mexico Woman Correction faculty. And to make a phone back home to my love ones & kids. its expensive. The phone rates are ridiculous here. Just to make a call is 40¢ a minute & to talk the whole 15 or 20 minutes is \$8.00. Tell me that ain't ridiculous. Some of us inmates are here for a long period of time. we need to correspond with our family. So could you help us out in some way. I can't even talk to my kids for awhile. And for me I have to make calls to Arizona & Utah so I'm just speaking on my experience. So Thank you. for your help

Aug. 26, 2012

Sincerely,  
Yalanele Tsasie

# 75043

"This is a public comment for the Wright Petition  
(CC Docket # 96-128)."

Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC. 20554

FCC Mail Room

25 Aug. 12

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

My name is Michael E. Ballard, #KB5815. And I am currently awaiting execution on Pennsylvania's Death-Row.

My family however resides mostly in my home State of Arkansas. And as such our only communication is by phone. And therein is the reason I write you. Every 15 minute call I make to my family from here costs them, on average between \$12 and \$14 dollars.

For my retired Father, who lives off of his Social Security check to have to pay such an exorbitant amount just to hear his condemned sons' voice is criminal in itself.

I implore your intervention on behalf of myself, and the tens of thousands of others like me who've similar situations. Please assist us in getting these phone rates to an affordable level.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

*Michael E. Ballard*

Michael E. Ballard KB5815  
175 Progress Dr.  
Waynesburg, Pa. 15370

Received & Inspected

SEP -4 2012

FCC Mail Room

Junius C. Burao, 3rd.  
#GZ-5987  
175 Progress Drive  
Waynesburg, PA. 15370

August 26, 2012

Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: A public comment for the Waight petition(CC Docket #95-128)

Dear Mr. Genachowski,

My name is Junius C. Burao, 3rd. an inmate on Death Row housed at S.C.I. Greene in Pennsylvania. I write this letter to you, to express my earnest concern and opinion upon the conspiratorial practice by the nation's jails, prisons and detention centers in conjunction with certain phone companies. A practice of monopolization of one severely disadvantaged double minority demographic, (those who are incarcerated or detained and all of the people they want and need to call).

Such practice I believe, permits price gouging to the extreme by exploiting this disadvantaged cross-section of society, which includes, many of folk who are in the free world who haven't been accused of breaking any law. Without competition, the facilities in cahoots with which ever phone company that promises them the most "kick-back" percentage-wise and is now free to charge any and everything they want.

I have always believed that this practice was illegal in the Continental U.S., some sort of white collar crime. Essentially, both the facilities and phone companies are printing their own money. It is ridiculous that I or my mother, pays more for a call to her in Atlantic City than I would pay for a call somewhere over-seas! Therefore I believe this should be looked into and stopped. I thank you for your time, careful consideration and efforts upon this matter. Please sir, have a very pleasant day.

Yours truly,

*Junius C. Burao 3rd*

cc. File

Mr. Jerry Boston, Jr.  
Reg. A-40643  
P.O. Box 112  
Joliet, IL 60434

Received & Inspected

AUGUST 28, 2012

SEP - 4 2012

FCC Mail Room

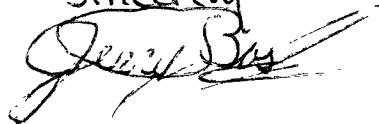
Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: A Public Comment for the Wright Petition  
(C.C Docket No. 96-128).

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I will gladly share the impact that the high cost of Prison Phone calls has had on me and my family which consist of a Sister who received a kidney transplant two years ago. And now struggles to pay her portion of the surgery. Now I'm ~~one~~ one of three Brothers in IDOC. And she tries to keep a communication line open for all three of us. but it's very due to the high cost of Prison Phone calls. Because she's forced to pay two phone bills AT&T and consolidated communication which a company connected with IDOC. And this makes it very hard maintain a line of communication between us. which places a gap in our relationship. Because of the high cost of Prison Phone calls. I'm

Sincerely



Received & Inspected

SEP - 4 2012

FCC Mail Room

8/26/12

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

This is a public Comment for the Wright Petition (CC Docket # 96-128).

My name is Patrick Connelly GDC # 1240924, I'm an inmate at Jackson Hi max in Ga. I'm from JAX, FL and due to the cost of phone calls across state lines (and calls within the state) I'm not able to talk to my family. It's \$22.95 for a 15 min Phone call to JAX, FL.

So, because of the phone calls costing so much and the High gas prices I don't get to see or talk to my son but once or twice a year. That's a very hard thing for a 7 year old boy to understand. And it's been very hard on my marriage also.

I'm ~~very~~ very grateful for any help in this matter.

Patrick Connelly

Patrick Connelly GDC # 1240924  
GDLP/Smu unit

Po Box 3877

Jackson, Ga

30233

Received & Inspected

SEP -4 2012

FCC Mail Room

To: Chairman Julius Gienachowski  
Federal Communication Commission  
Public Comments  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St. S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Fr: Otis Jordan #N-60672  
Stateville C.C.  
P.O. Box 112  
Joliet, IL. 60434

Dear Chairman,

I Called my Aunt, who Lives in Hammond Indiana and was Told That She is Charged whether She excepts the Call or not.

IT APPEARS THAT EVERYTIME I CALL, SHE HAS TO PAY A 10\$ RECEIVING FEE, FOR THE RECORDING. SHE PUTS TEN DOLLARS ON THE CALLING CARD, AND I ONLY GET ONE CALL MAYBE FOR 20 MINUTES. THE REST IS FOR SUR-CHARGES.

Her PHONE # 219-989-9865, M/S. Johanna Bright. She Lives in Hammond, Ind. you Can Call her and ASK her of her Troubles with Collect Calls.

Inmates Pay 3 Times the Amount for A Collect Call Than A Regular Collect Call.

ILLinois ALSO Discipline inmates with  
This Thing Called "C-Grade". Which means you  
Are only Allowed one Phone Call a month. yet  
due To The Type of System in ILLinois for  
The inmate Phones. We Are not Allowed The  
One Phone Call, Because There is no Program  
in The AUTOMATIVE System. So The  
Federal Law That Allows us one Call Per  
Month IS VIOLATED everytime an inmate is  
Put in "C-Grade".

Thank you for your concern

M.J.O. Jordan

This is a public comment for the Wright Petition  
(CC Docket #96-128)

PJDenkham

Received & Inspected

P-16644 A4-150

SEP -4 2012

P.O. Box 1050

Solana Beach CA 92075

FCC Mail Room

Chairman Julius Genachowski

August 25th, 2012

Federal Communications Commission

Public Comments

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

I am at Salinas Valley State Prison that uses a blocking device on the inmate phones. In order for me to telephone my family I must pay \$100 a month plus the cost of each 15 minute phone call at about \$20 a call.

My family all live in England and this rate has prevented me from telephoning my family. I have been at Salinas since January 2009 and I have never been able to talk on the phone to my family.

Respectfully Submitted,

PJDenkham